

**U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO)
Youth Opportunity Grants (YOG) Technical Assistance Update**

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The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Office of Youth Services/Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO) brings you the Youth Opportunity Grant (YOG) Technical Assistance Update. On a bi-weekly basis, the update will provide important announcements and information for YOG sites, partners, and coaches.

Please let us know if these updates are useful to you and how it might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have information or items to contribute, or topics that you would like see covered, please contact Susan Rosenblum, Office of Youth Opportunities, at srosenblum@doleta.gov or (202) 693-3597.

The YOG FORUM is now up and running. This is a password protected site to facilitate information-sharing across the YOG sites and their partner agencies. YO! grantees can post questions, announcements, share information, etc.

To get on go to http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/yog.asp Hit the button at the top that says YOG FORUM. Log in using the following username and password:

*username: yog
password: yoguser*

If you have any questions or problems please contact Susan Rosenblum at 202/693-3597 or via e-mail at srosenblum@doleta.gov.

YouthZone a Success: YouthZone, the interactive exhibit of a model youth center at this year's JETT*Con conference was an unqualified success. Conference attendees visited the YouthZone and met with youth to learn how to effectively attract, engage and retain youth in activities that promote their personal growth and employment prospects. Over 20 youth from the Baltimore YO! site, the Youth Development Research Foundation (YDRF) and youth with disabilities served as hosts of the YouthZone and really helped to make the center come alive with their energy, enthusiasm and knowledge. On July 17, Deputy Secretary of Labor, D. Cameron Findlay and Office of Youth Services Administrator Lorenzo Harrison toured the YouthZone and were treated to a live poetry

reading by youth and then toured the Living Classrooms Foundation youth offender re-entry program in Baltimore. Special thanks to Ernest Dorsey, Project Director for the Baltimore YO! and Site Directors Jean Cooper and Pat Waddell and to the youth for their assistance in helping to making the YouthZone such a powerful exhibit. If you are looking for information and resources on the creating a center, please visit the YouthZone web site at <http://www.nyec.org/youthzone.html>.

Philadelphia YO! has developed a Learning Plan that is used for community service learning and summer programming. The Learning Plan includes an overview of the components for good learning projects, a form that helps teachers and/or youth development specialists design a project, and assessment rubrics that are tied to Philadelphia's Learning Standards. To get a copy of it please contact Mike Sack via e-mail at msack@yesphilly.org.

Film/Videography Workshop for YO! sites: In collaboration with the Philadelphia YO! site, the Office of Youth Opportunities is developing a two and a half day training session for staff from those sites who wish to receive instruction on how to teach and assist their young people in making films. The workshop will be held in Philadelphia, PA on October 18-21. Workshop space is limited and each site may only send one person. This training will be provided for free, however, sites will need to make and pay for travel arrangements for staff who will be attending the workshop. **Please send an e-mail to astom@doleta.gov by COB August 14 if you are interested in sending a staff person to the workshop.** For additional information, please contact Anne Stom, 202/693-3377.

West Oakland YO! Bowling League: Beginning Wednesday, July 11, 2001, teams comprised of members and staff of the *West Oakland Youth Opportunity Project* (aka YO!) will be competing weekly at Mel's Bowl in Alameda. The league currently has 21 participants and is adding new members regularly. Throughout the handicap league play, participants will be competing for such awards as team champion, highest individual average, most improved bowler, high game and series (scratch), and high game and series (handicapped). Additional awards will be provided for those members successfully completed trainings and/or educational attainment, i.e., completion of GED requirements, high school diploma, etc. For more information please contact Leon R. Monroe, Project Director, West Oakland YO! His e-mail is lmunroe@oaklandpic.org and his phone # is 510-873-0716.

Youth Connections West : The latest edition of Youth Connections West, the Region 6 newsletters is now available at <http://www.doleta.gov/regions/reg06/>

Palm Offering Handheld Computing Devices to Nonprofit Organizations:

Palm, Inc. is committed to helping nonprofit organizations serve community needs through the Palm Products Donation Program. The program offers donations of Palm handheld computing devices to enable nonprofit groups to streamline work processes and improve information management. See the Palm Products Donation Program Web page for complete guidelines and an online application form. Contact: RFP Link: <http://www.palm.com/about/corporate/donations.html>.

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Starbucks Foundation Offers Literacy Grants The foundation's efforts to aid less fortunate populations currently focus on literacy in the following areas: Children (0-5) and Families; Tutor/Mentor Promotion; and **Writing Programs for Older Youth (12-21)**. The literacy grant program's Mini Grants (\$1,000) are sponsored by Starbucks partners (employees) who link with literacy programs in their communities (applications available from local Starbucks stores or from regional marketing offices). The program's Opportunity Grants (up to \$10,000) are focused on the three areas listed above and require engagement with Starbucks resources (partners, stores, customers) at the local level (organizations invited to apply after review of initial concept paper). Applications are accepted from 501(c)3 and other tax-exempt organizations only. See the Starbucks Foundation Web site for complete guidelines and application information. RFP Link: <http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp>. Contact: Literacy Hotline: (206) 318-7022

UPDATE on Announcements for Solicitations for Grant Applications: In the last edition of the Technical Assistance Update we alerted you about five different grants totaling \$10.3 million to help provide employment and training services to youth with disabilities. We have updated instructions on how to locate the first two Solicitations for Grant Applications (SGA's) referenced. Go to the Federal Register search section at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html. Then, in the "Issue Date" box, fill-in

07/11/2001. In the "Search Term" box, you may fill in a number of search words, but if you fill-in "High School/High Tech", these two SGA's will appear in both a summary description and in the complete SGA description (without necessary attachments). Applications are due August 10, 2001.

Publications

Report on Exemplary Tech Prep Sites: CORD, a national nonprofit organization providing innovative changes in education to prepare students for greater success in careers and higher education, working with Lockheed Martin Energy Systems, Inc., has just issued a report that highlights eleven effective sites where schools, colleges, and employers have worked together to offer promising paths leading to those goals. The report can be found at <http://www.cord.org/lev2.cfm/143>. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader to download and view the report.

Useful Web Sites

New Federal Grants Web Site Launched: The Federal Commons, an Internet grants management portal serving the grantee organization community is open for business. The Federal Commons provides both public information, such as grant programs and funding opportunities, as well as the secure processing of e-grant transactions. <http://www.cfda.gov/federalcommons/index.html>.

The **Institute for Global Education & Service Learning** is a non-profit training organization based on the campus of Philadelphia University. The **Institute** is one of thirteen agencies named in the National and Community Service Act of 1993 as a central resource for service-learning programs. It is

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the Atlantic Regional Center for the National Service Learning Exchange and the hosting agency for national and international service-learning conferences. <http://www.philau.edu/institute/>

The **Learn and Serve National Service-Learning Clearinghouse** (NSLC) is a comprehensive information system that focuses on all dimensions of service-learning, covering kindergarten through higher education school based as well as community based initiatives. Their web site address is: <http://www.nicsl.coled.umn.edu/>.

Important Dates to Remember

September 13 - 14: The PEPNet 2001 Institute Doubletree Crystal City, Arlington, VA. The annual Promising and Effective Practices Network (PEPNet) Institute is a unique, interactive conference that connects professionals to what works in youth employment programming. The highly acclaimed Institute has sold out early every year-so register now! For more information, visit www.nyec.org/pepnet_institute. See the flyer in PDF format at www.nyec.org/Institute01.pdf or contact NYEC at (202) 659-1064. (E-mail: nyec@nyec.org.)

September 19 - 22, 2001: Fifth Annual Biennial Conference on Your City's Families in Minneapolis, MN sponsored by the Institute for Youth, Education and Families of the National League of Cities. For more information go to their web site at www.nlc.org or call 202/626-3000

September 20: Teleconference: Myths, Facts and Illicit Drugs: What You Should Know; the 4th in a four-part series is on marijuana. All viewing sites must register in advance to receive the necessary satellite coordinates. Sites may register through the Internet by logging on to: <http://www.dlnets.com/cd/htm> or calling 887-820-0305.

October 18 - 21: Film workshop for YO! grantees in Philadelphia, PA. E-mail astom@doleta.gov for more information.

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